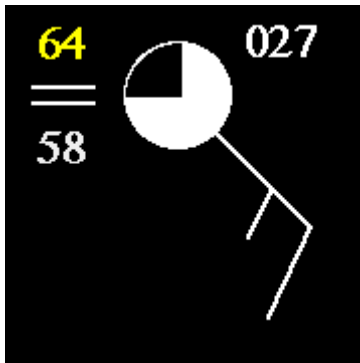


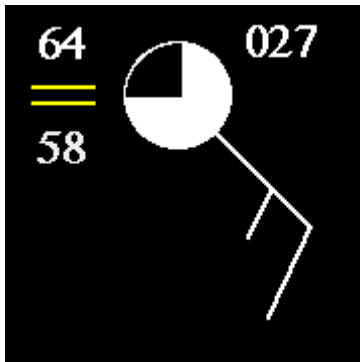
Interpreting Surface Observation Symbols

A quick overview



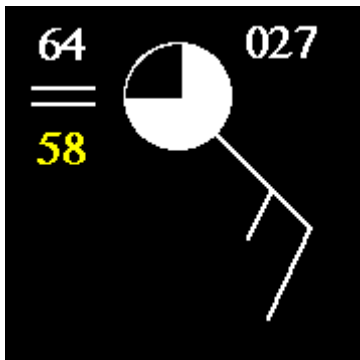
Temperature:

The value highlighted in yellow located in the upper left corner is the temperature in degrees **Fahrenheit**. In this example, the reported temperature is 64 degrees.



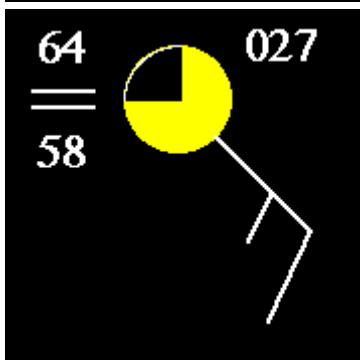
Weather Symbol:

The weather symbol highlighted in yellow indicates the type of weather occurring at the time the observation is taken. In this case, fog was reported. If there were thunderstorms occurring when the observation was taken, then the symbol for thunderstorms would have appeared instead.



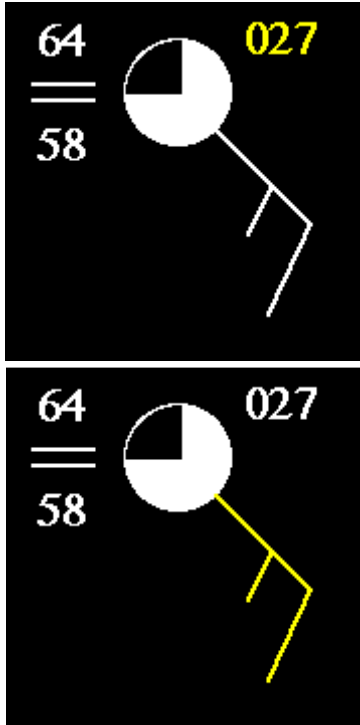
Dew Point Temperature:

The value highlighted in yellow located in the lower left corner is the dew point temperature in degrees **Fahrenheit**. In this example, the reported dew point temperature is 58 degrees.



Cloud Cover:

The symbol highlighted in yellow indicates the amount of cloud cover observed at the time the observation is taken. In this case, broken clouds were reported.



Sea Level Pressure:

The value highlighted in yellow located in the upper right corner represents the last three digits of the sea level pressure reading in **millibars (mb)**.

Wind Barb:

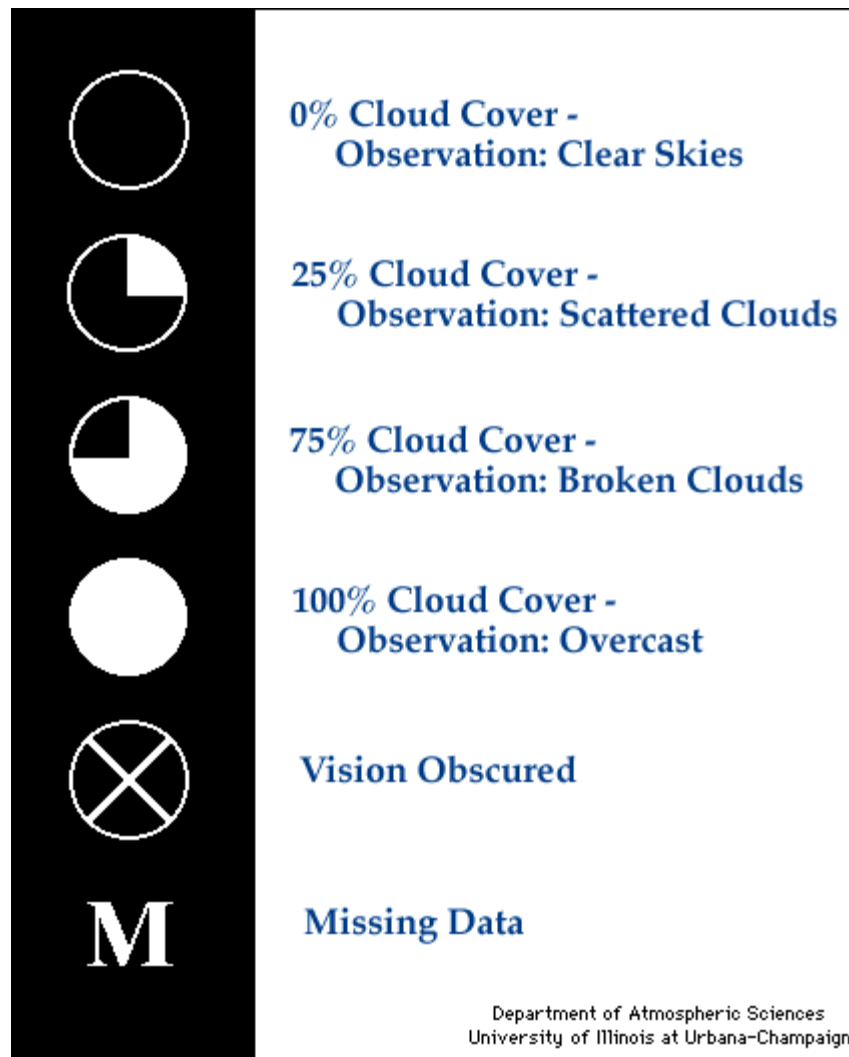
The symbol highlighted in yellow is known as a wind barb. The wind barb indicates wind direction and wind speed.

Common Weather Symbols:

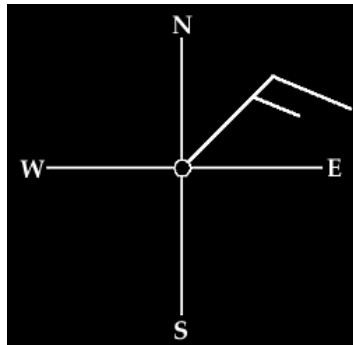
The chart below identifies some the most commonly used weather symbols and the type of weather they represent. For example, the first row of weather symbols (from left to right) identify Light Rain, Light Snow and Light Drizzle.

RAIN	SNOW	DRIZZLE
 Light	 Light	 Light
 Moderate	 Moderate	 Moderate
 Heavy	 Heavy	 Heavy
 Light Shower	 Light Shower	FREEZING RAIN Light
 Moderate Shower	 Moderate Shower	 Moderate
 Thunderstorm	OTHER Haze	 Ice Crystals
 Heavy T-storm	 Fog	

The chart below spans the entire spectrum of cloud cover reports, from clear to overcast skies.



Wind barbs point in the direction "from" which the wind is blowing. In the case of the diagram below, the orientation of the wind barb indicates winds from the Northeast.



The term easterly means that the winds are from the east. In the example above, the winds are out of the northeast, or northeasterly. On the otherhand, the term "eastward" means that the winds are blowing towards the east.

Wind speed is given here in the units of "knots" (knt). A "Knot" is a nautical mile per hour.

1 Knot = 1.15 Miles Per Hour (MPH)

1 Knot = 1.9 Kilometers Per Hour (KM/HR)

Each short barb represents 5 knots, each long barb 10 knots. A long barb and a short barb is 15 knots, simply by adding the value of each barb together (10 knots + 5 knots = 15 knots). If only a station circle is plotted, the winds are calm.

